

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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1. Altenburg (K-27): In the Leipzigerstrasse, on the NE edge of Altenburg, there are two large barracks, one on either side of the road. The building on the east side of the Leipzigerstrasse was occupied by an artillery unit equipped with at least twenty-one 122 mm. howitzers as late as 24 March 1948. Three-axled Studebaker prime movers were used to haul these pieces.
2. The barracks on the west side of the Leipzigerstrasse were occupied by another artillery unit, this one being equipped with 152 mm. heavy howitzers drawn by "Stalinetz" tractors. Fourteen howitzers were observed.
3. A 250-line Red Army telephone exchange is situated on the corner of the Dresdenstrasse and the Leipzigerstrasse. The former Wehrmacht supply depot on the Dresdenstrasse, towards Poschwitz, is now an ammunition dump and is closely guarded.
4. The estate between the Wolfenhof and the Leipzigerstrasse is fenced off as officers' quarters. The Münserstrasse is also barred by a high wooden fence. A Russian general resides in a villa on the Kopernikusstrasse. Two thousand troops were to be quartered in the villages of Langenleuba and Niederhain, near Altenburg, during late March 1948.
5. Weissenfels (J-99): Eighty SU 152-type self-propelled guns were located at the Pionierkaserne on the Seelmerstrasse in Weissenfels during March 1948. They belonged to the 57th Guards Rifle Division. On 13 March, fifteen of these guns were shipped off to Eisenach (H-76). Thirteen men deserted during the loading operations.
6. Magdeburg (Y-60): Between 15 and 22 March 1948, two military trains loaded with T-34, Tiger, and Sherman tanks, with accompanying troops, passed through Berlin and proceeded to Magdeburg. The trains had come directly from the Soviet Union. The troops were quartered in the Encke Barracks in Magdeburg-Sudenberg. One brigade (sic) of these troops, without tanks, proceeded to Salzwedel (Y-27).
7. Eldena (P-72): The airfield at Eldena has been blown up and the runway has been destroyed. The buildings of the Anklam (U-99) airfield have been demolished.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

8. Berlin: A hydrofoil boat is being designed for the Russians which will have a speed of seventy km. per hour and will carry 160 fully-equipped troops. The designers, who are either from or connected with a Hamburg firm, spent several days in March 1948 conferring at the Mintransmash offices on the Baumschulenweg in the Russian Sector of Berlin.

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